

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,

CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RÁJPÚTÁNA,

Received up to 17th March, 1889.

POLITICAL.

The *Almora Akhbár*, of the 11th March, referring to the proclamation lately issued by Mahárāja Dalip Singh, observes that he is greatly mistaken if he thinks that he can alienate the affections of the natives from the British Government. They fully appreciate the advantages of British rule, and can never be induced to do anything injurious to it. The British Government should, however, endeavour to conciliate him, particularly as a war with Russia is looming in the near future. He is likely to accept any terms which may be offered to him by Government, inasmuch as he has been reduced to great straits at present.

Circulation,
85 copies.

The *Mashir-i-Qaisar* (Lucknow), of the 13th March, states that Mahárāja Dalip Singh asks natives to give him four crors of rupees.

The same.

Circulation,
150 copies.

But he should not expect a single farthing from this country, which has been reduced to great poverty. Natives would be very thankful to him if he could induce some millionaires of Europe to give them a thousand crors of rupees for improving their material condition.

NATIVE STATES.

Circulation,
325 copies.

The *Tatt-i-Hind* (Meerut), of the 8th March, observes that its correspondents have frequently given an account of the maladministration prevailing in Rampur. An idea of the state of things there may be gathered from the circumstance that the funeral procession of the late Nawáb Mushtaq Ali Khan, who was the owner of a State yielding a revenue of 40 lakhs of rupees a-year, and who ruled over lakhs of men, was accompanied by only about 50 persons. He did not receive good medical treatment. General Azimu-l-din Khan placed a Gurkha guard at the palace during His Highness' illness, and no one, not even His Highness' medical attendant, was allowed access to His Highness without the General's permission. It is difficult to understand what the General's object was in preventing men near and dear to His Highness from waiting on His Highness when he lay on his deathbed. The *Pioneer* of the 28th February states that the name of the late Nawáb was Azmat Ali Khan, and that he was 50 years old at the time of his death! The editor of the Allahabad journal seems to have taken an extra glass of champagne at the time of writing the article. Mushtaq Ali Khan was the name of the late Nawáb, and his age did not exceed 30 years at his death. He had long been paralyzed, and could not walk even a few steps without the support of other men. Sir Auckland Colvin should avail himself of the opportunity afforded by the late Nawáb's death to improve the administration of the State. But there is reason to fear that General Azimu-l-din Khan will be appointed President of the Council of Regency. He is a good rider, sportsman and swimmer. He knows very well how to deal with his enemies; and, above all, he shows great hospitality to European officials.

Circulation,
150 copies.

A correspondent of the *Jám-i-Jamshed* (Moradabad), of the 10th March, says that with the consent of his intimate friend, the Commissioner of Rohilkhand, the Prime Minister of Rampur has issued an order forbidding the contumacious princes to enter the State. The Prime Minister was lately told by some

person that Sahabzada Haidar Ali Khan had secretly arrived in Rampur at the invitation of the Nawáb, who had concealed him in an underground cell in his palace and consulted him on every matter. All the underground cells were ordered by General Azimu-l-din Khan to be carefully examined, but the Sahabzada was nowhere to be found. A dancing girl, who had received a large amount of money in cash and several lakhs of rupees worth of jewellery from the late Nawáb, has been forced by the Prime Minister to surrender the jewellery. The writer suggests that Sir Auckland Colvin should see the present Nawáb in private, and make enquiries from him as to the treatment he has received at the hands of the Prime Minister, and into the management of the affairs of the State by the latter.

The *Bhárat Bandhu* (Aligarh), of the 15th March, publishes a letter communicated by a Pandit at the Arya Samaj. Bundi, who states that Bisheshwaránand and Nityánand, two missionaries of the Arya Samaj, went to that city and desired to hold a religious controversy with the orthodox Bráhmans there. At their own request the Mahárája became the umpire. The missionaries of the Arya Samaj could not give satisfactory replies to the questions of the Bráhmans. The Mahárája told them that they deserved severe punishment for abusing the Hindu religion, but did not inflict any punishment on them. He simply turned them out of his State, but warned them that if any member of their Samaj ever had the audacity to enter his State in future, he would be greatly dishonored.

Circulation,
100 copies.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The *Hindustán* (Kálákankar), of the 15th and 16th March, gives the substance of the letter of the London correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette*, in which he referred to Lord Dufferin's proposals regarding the reform of the Legislative Councils. Lord Dufferin's proposals regarding the reform of the Indian Legislative Councils, and to the alleged objections made by Lord Salisbury, Lord Cross and Lord Lansdowne to the proposals; and observes that, as the subject has been taken into consideration by Government, some reforms are sure to be introduced before long. But it is a matter of regret that the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State and the Viceroy do not appear to

Circulation,
240 copies.

have read the reports of the National Congress. They will receive invaluable aid from those reports in settling the question. The Calcutta National Congress anticipated the difficulties which at present exercise the minds of Lord Salisbury, Lord Cross and Lord Lansdowne, and made suggestions in its fourth resolution for overcoming them. Their lordships object to the extension of the elective system to the Legislative Councils, on the ground that properly qualified electors cannot be found in this country. But the objection is not a valid one. If only the Municipal and the District Boards were empowered to elect the members of the Legislative Councils, the Indians would have a better representation in the Councils than Englishmen had in Parliament before the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832. Perhaps Lord Lansdowne is opposed to the submission of the Budget to the Legislative Council for discussion, on the ground that a majority of the members might refuse to sanction the introduction of a tax or the incurring of an expenditure considered necessary by Government, and that in that case Government would be reduced to great straits. But in order to provide against such a contingency, Government should reserve to itself the right of overruling the decision of a majority of the members on emergent occasions, as has been suggested by the National Congress. The submission of the Budget to the Council for discussion would check the spread of the dangerous idea in the public mind that Government makes an extravagant and improper use of the public money. Similarly, with reference to the right of interpellation, the National Congress has suggested that the official members might refuse to answer any questions the answering of which would, in their opinion, be injurious to the public interest. The grant of that right is very desirable, inasmuch as it is calculated to protect the people from the high-handedness of those officials who are wicked and tyrannical.

Circulation,
890 copies.

The *Oudh Akhbār* (Lucknow), of the 13th March, says that among other measures adopted by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, with a view to improve agriculture and industrial arts, the Department encourages the holding of agricultural and industrial shows or exhibitions in different parts

District exhibitions.

of these provinces. In the Meerut and the Agra Divisions exhibitions are held every year in almost all the districts, and attract traders from distant places such as Bombay. But it is to be regretted that sports and games chiefly engage the attention both of the promoters and the visitors of the exhibitions, while the real object of the exhibitions is considered as a matter of only secondary importance. The writer is of opinion that the period during which an exhibition is to remain open should be divided into two portions, the first of which should be entirely devoted to the promotion of the objects of the exhibition and the second to sports and amusements. During the first portion the exhibits should be carefully examined, prizes adjudged, and suitable speeches and lectures delivered, but no sports or games allowed. Moreover, the writer is of opinion that the exhibitions alone will not do. A standing committee should be established in each district to promote the objects which the exhibitions have in view.

The *Āzād* (Lucknow), of the 15th March, in continuation of its previous article about Assistant Surgeons, observes that it would appear that some Assistant Surgeons of these provinces forwarded a memorial last year to the Government of India, praying for the redress of their grievances such as the low rates of pay, the block of promotion, and so forth. The Government of India in its letter No. 517, dated 9th August, 1888, admitted the truth of their complaints, and told them that every opportunity would be taken to promote Assistant Surgeons to the posts for which they were fit. So far as the knowledge of the *Āzād* extends the above promise has not yet been redeemed and not a single Assistant Surgeon has been promoted to a Civil Surgeoncy. As the hot weather is approaching and consequently many Civil Surgeons will shortly go on leave, Government should avail itself of the opportunity to place some able and experienced Assistant Surgeons in civil medical charge of districts and see if they do not acquit themselves at least as well as apothecaries. The present state of things is highly objectionable. Suppose the Civil Surgeon of Bara Banki takes leave; The Civil Surgeon of Fyzabad will be appointed to

Circulation,
250 copies.

the visiting medical charge of Bara Banki in addition to his own duties, and will pay a visit to Bara Banki for a single day every month. The Assistant Surgeon will have to do all the work of the Civil Surgeon of Bara Banki but will receive no acting allowance.

Circulation,
620 copies.

The *Nasim-i-Agra*, of the 15th March, complains that the police look upon the people in the same light that a wolf does upon sheep.

Many police officials have themselves been convicted of offences which they are appointed to check. The police are corrupt, let off the real culprits on receipt of bribes, and arrest innocent men: what is worse is, that some Judges and Magistrates greatly trust the police, and some consider the conviction of men sent by the police necessary for the maintenance of peace and the suppression of crime. But, on the contrary, the conviction of innocent men tends to increase crime, because in that case the criminals are still more encouraged to commit offences. If Government compares the number of convictions with that of acquittals in cases sent up by the police and tried by experienced Magistrates and Judges, it will find that in more than one-third of such cases innocent men are arrested by the police. Hence satisfactory steps should be taken by Government to protect the people from the police tyranny and oppression.

Circulation,
250 copies.

The *Azad* (Lucknow), of the 15th March, complains that no revenue was assessed on lands occupied by groves of trees at the time of the last settlement, but that landowners have cut the trees at many places. The *Azad* refers to the advantages of groves, and advises Government to find out by a reference to patwáris how far the above complaint is well-founded, and to bring pressure to bear upon landowners to plant trees.

LEGISLATION.

Circulation,
340 copies.

The *Hindustán* (Kálákankar), of the 10th, 12th and 13th March, in commenting upon the Patwári Cess Bill, gives the substance of the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton's speech made at the time of introducing the bill into the Supreme Legislative Council, and observes that Lord Ripon's Government, finding a surplus of three crores of rupees in the Imperial treasury in 1882, reduced

the salt duty from Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ to Rs. 2 a maund, remitted the patwári cess in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and abolished the import duty on fine cotton goods. Lord Dufferin held a darbár at Rawal Pindi and a camp of exercise at Delhi, conquered Burma and engaged in other such undertakings, which soon rendered the condition of the Imperial treasury very unsatisfactory. In order to restore the financial equilibrium his lordship introduced the income-tax, enhanced the salt tax, and raised the duty on kerosine oil. Now a bill has been introduced with a view to reimposing the patwári cess. The increase in the salt duty presses severely on the dumb millions, and the levy of the patwári cess will add to the burdens of the poor cultivators in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. Government has not the courage to re-impose the cotton import duty through fear of the cotton lords of Manchester. One of the arguments urged by Mr. Quinton in justification of the reimposition of the patwári cess was, that the abolition of the cess had given no relief to the cultivators. His statement is only partially true, because he himself admitted that in the permanently-settled districts and in some other places the cultivators had benefited by the measure. A large proportion of cultivators received no relief, because their contributions to the cess had become amalgamated with their rents, and because it was impossible, he said, to separate the contributions from the rents. Had Government liked to separate their contributions to the cess from their rents, it could have done so. Again, if they received no relief from the abolition of the cess, is it just to impose a fresh burden on them? In accordance with the provisions of the bill they will have to make an additional contribution over and above the contribution they already make! This is like administering more poison to a poisoned man on the failure of an attempt to relieve him of his poison. Nothing could be more cruel than to add to the burdens of the poor cultivators who, although they work steadily at their fields from year's end to year's end, in spite of all the inclemencies of the weather, get one full meal during the day with difficulty. Lord Ripon's Government remitted the patwári cess in 1882, because it considered the condition of the peasantry in these provinces to be unsatisfactory.

Has there been any improvement in their condition since then which might justify Sir Auckland Colvin in saddling them with a new tax? Is this the outcome of His Honor's late tour in Oudh? Mr. Quinton declared that the contribution which the cultivators were required to make was very small. In the North-Western Provinces the contribution would be over one rupee and in Oudh 12 annas for one hundred rupees of rent. The fact is, that rich men and highly paid officials are unable to realize the distress of the poor. If they were reduced to the condition of cultivators only for a short time, they would find out the value of 12 annas or one rupee. The *Hindustán* is of opinion that no additional burden should be laid on cultivators. As regards the landlords, they would have no objection to pay the salaries of the patwáris, if the latter were again placed under their control. Since the patwáris have become Government servants the talukdárs have found it very difficult to obtain any information or papers from them. If Government desires to keep them entirely under its control, it should itself pay their full salaries. Mr. Quinton declared that Government had consulted the talukdárs of Oudh on the subject of the reimposition of the patwári cess, and that they had approved of the proposal. Which talukdárs were consulted, and what authority had they to speak on behalf of all the landlords? It is very unjust to represent the consent of two or three subservient talukdárs as the consent of the whole landed proprietary of these provinces. Mr. Quinton repeatedly laid stress on the important services rendered by patwáris to Government. He said that patwáris assisted Government in taking a census of the rural population, carrying out sanitary measures, and so forth; and that their registers were very useful in connection with the revision of settlements and saved Government a great deal of expense. If they are so very useful to Government, why does it not continue to bear the whole cost of the maintenance of the patwári establishment? The Supreme Government having been hard pressed for money on account of its extravagance, has appealed to the Local Governments and Administration for aid; and Sir Auckland Colvin has consented to the imposition of a new burden on the cultivators in these provinces.

If the Government of India is in want of money, it should have levied additional taxation from all classes of the people and not from the poor cultivators alone. High English officials are agreed in thinking that the tax on land in this country should be reduced. Even Lord Salisbury himself once declared that, insofar as the system of taxation could be altered, it was desirable that the cultivators should be required to bear a smaller proportion of the public expenditure than at present. In that case, is it not gross injustice to add to their burdens? Nothing but a reform of the Legislative Councils can protect the people from such injustice.

The *Mihr-i-Nimroz* (Bijnor), of the 14th March, in commenting upon the bill, observes that

The same.

it is to be regretted that Government desires to pass the bill with undue haste as it did Act XIII of 1882. The select committee was required to submit its report on the 14th March, in order that the bill may be passed by the end of the current month. The persons whom the bill will affect should be given an opportunity to express their opinions upon it. The opinion of a handful of the Oudh Talukdárs, who have readily given their consent to the proposal in the hope of receiving titles, cannot be considered as the opinion of the entire body of landlords in the North Western Provinces and Oudh. It is beyond the shadow of a doubt that the time has arrived for reforming the Legislative Councils. The bill does not appear to have been approved of by any class of the community. The Hon'ble Mr. Steel, and some other members of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, protested, on behalf of the general public, against the payment of any portion of patwáris' salaries by Government. The landlords say that, as patwáris have been made Government servants, Government should pay their whole salaries. The cultivators consider the proposed levy of the patwári cess from them as a great injustice to them, inasmuch as they received no relief from the abolition of the cess in 1882. The *Mihr* is of opinion that Government should impose no new cess on the landlords and the cultivators and should itself continue to pay the salaries of patwáris.

Circulation,
300 copies.

EDUCATION.

Circulation,
185 copies.

THE *Najmu-l-Akhbár* (Etáwah), of the 4th March, received on the 15th idem, takes exception to some passages in Cock's History of the establishment of British rule in India, to which the *Mihr-i-Nimroz* of Bijnor lately drew attention, and observes that many Muhammadan kings were no doubt great tyrants, but that their vices were not due to their religious creed. Nothing could be a greater mistake than to condemn a religion when any individual followers of it are found to have misbehaved themselves. If the Revd. Cock's line of argument were adopted, the charge which he has brought against the Muhammadan religion would be equally applicable to the Christian religion. The *Akhbár* then refers to the religious tolerance exhibited by some members of the Abbas dynasty and to the alleged cruel and tyrannical proceedings of some of the Kings of England, commencing with King Ethelred II, who is charged with the wholesale massacre of the Danes in his kingdom, and ending with King James II, who is charged with persecuting the Protestants. The *Akhbár* then observes that both the Muhammadan and the Christian religions inculcate charity and mercy, and that if any Muhammadans or Christians, particularly kings, whose guiding principle is politics and not religion, are guilty of misconduct, they themselves are to blame and not their religion. It is a matter of surprise that the Hon'ble Sir Saiyid Ahmad Khan, Mr. Justice Mahmud and Maulvi Zaka-ullah Khan, Shams-ul-Ulma, should have consented to the introduction of the book abovementioned into the Allahabad University curriculum. They should endeavour to get the book removed from the curriculum, otherwise they will be very much blamed by their co-religionists.

Circulation,
240 copies.

A correspondent of the *Hindustán* (Kálákankar), of the 16th March, writing from Almora, condemns the attempt made by the missionaries in charge of the Ramsay College to convert a Hindu boy to Christianity; complains that there is no Government school in the whole Kumaun Division,

Need for the establishment of a Government College at Almora.

and urges the establishment of a college by Government at Almora. The writer thinks that the advantages of the hill climate would attract students even from the plains to the college.

The *Subodh Sindhu* (Khandwa), of the 13th March, refers to the backwardness of the Central Provinces in education, compared with other provinces, but is glad to say that the Government College at Jabalpur and the Morris College at Nagpur provide for the present requirements of the Central Provinces for higher education. The *Sindhu*, however, does not understand why the M.A. class, which was formerly opened at the Morris College, was abolished soon after; complains that the state of primary and secondary education is very unsatisfactory, and asks the authorities to take steps with a view to improve it.

Circulation,
250 copies.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

A local correspondent of the *Nasím-i-Agra*, of the 15th March, complains that it is rumoured that some Rájás, Thakurs, Babus, &c., at Agra, who are retired Government officials, and who fleeced thousands of men while they were in service, have formed themselves into a clique, which the writer styles the Thuggee Department, for cheating the people. They induce candidates for employment to pay them hundreds of rupees as presents by promising to secure posts for them under native princes, talukdárs or Government officials, but they neither secure posts nor return the money to the candidates. Persons are easily duped by them, as the payment of a bribe is, in the popular opinion, a *sine qua non* for success in everything; the posts of even chaprasis and chaukidárs are openly sold, and failures of justice in the courts of corrupt and unprincipled men are frequent.

Circulation,
620 copies.

A correspondent of the *Oudh Akhbár* (Lucknow), of the 15th March, refers to the advantages of vaccination, and censures Hindus and Musalmáns for their aversion to it.

Circulation,
690 copies.

Circulation,
700 copies.

The *Godharm Prakash* (Cawnpore), for March, publishes

Kine-killing.

two Hindi songs in which a cow is represented as referring to the advantages which the people derive from her, and as appealing to them to intercede on her behalf and take steps with a view to securing the discontinuance of the custom of kine-killing.

Circulation,
418 copies.

The *Nyaya Sudha* (Hardá), of the 13th March, is glad to

Protection of kine in the Central Provinces.

say that at least in the matter of the protection of kine the Central Provinces are ahead of the other provinces, through the efforts of the cow-protection society at Nagpur. Similar societies have been formed and sheds for kine established at various places in the Central Provinces. Gopal Rao Hari Bhide, Vakil, Seth Shiva Narain, Seth Ram Narain, and Bapu Rao Dada, M.A., Vakil, deserve great praise for their exertions in promoting the movement.

Circulation,
1150 copies.

The *Jám-i-Jamshed* (Morababad), of the 10th March, com-

Dispute between the Rájá of Kashipur and some Musalmáns regarding a Muhammadan mosque at Moradabad.

plains that the Rájá of Kashipur has taken wrongful possession of a Muhammadan mosque at Moradabad, and desires to turn it into stables for his horses. His servants interfere with the Musalmáns who go to the mosque for offering their daily prayers, and he has even instituted a civil suit against them. The mosque is situated near the house which formerly belonged to the late Abid Ali Khan, but which was confiscated by Government on account of his rebellion and sold or given gratis to the Rájá. The Musalamáns have shown great forbearance, but the insolence of the Rájá's men is likely to lead to a serious religious riot. Hence the local authorities should take steps with a view to preventing the occurrence of a riot. It is rumoured that the civil court has issued an order forbidding the Musalmáns to offer their prayers at the mosque pending the decision of the suit. The order is calculated to grieve them and should be cancelled.

The *Prayág Samáchar* (Allahabad), of the 11th March,
complaints that when a fire broke out
A fire at Allahabad. in a shop in the city of Allahabad on
the night of the 8th idem, the police rendered no assistance to
the people in extinguishing the fire, and asks the Municipal
Board to make satisfactory arrangements for putting out fires.

Circulation,
400 copies.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	CIRCULATION.
						1889.	1889.	
1	<i>Agra Punch</i>	...	Urdu	Weekly	Amir Khan	Mar. 12th	Mar. 16th	156 copies.
2	<i>Akhbar-i-Alam</i>	Meerut	"	"	Mugarrab Husain Khan.	"	"	63 "
3	<i>Akhbar-i-Chunar</i>	Chunar	"	"	Rajah Ali Khan	"	14th	160 "
4	<i>Alam-i-Taswir</i>	Cawnpore	"	"	Rahmatu-l-lah	"	16th	200 "
5	<i>Aligarh Institute Gazette.</i>	Aligarh	Urdu-English,	Bi-weekly	Gulab Bai	9th, 12th & 16th.	11th, 14th & 17th.	494 copies (including 282 copies taken by Government).
6	<i>Almora Akhbar</i>	Almora	Hindi	Weekly	Sada Nand	11th	13th	85 copies.
7	<i>Ainu-l-Akhbar</i>	Meerut	Urdu	"	Amir Ali	8th	11th	300 "
8	<i>Anjuman-i-Hind</i>	Lucknow	"	"	Kishan Lal	9th	13th	123 "
9	<i>Azad</i>	"	"	"	Ahmad Ali	15th	16th	250 "
10	<i>Bharat Bandhu</i>	Aligarh	Hindi	"	Mihir Chand	8th & 15th	12th & 17th.	100 "
11	<i>Bharat Jiwan</i>	Benares	"	"	Ram Krishna Varná,	11th	13th	1,500 "
12	<i>Bulbul-i-Hind</i>	Moradabad	Urdu	"	Kishun Sarup	8th	12th	225 "
13	<i>Dabdaba-i-Qaisari</i>	Bareilly	"	"	Thakur Prasad	9th & 16th.	13th & 17th.	200 "
14	<i>Dabdaba-i-Sikandari</i>	Rampur	"	"	Muhammad Husain,	11th	13th	447 "
15	<i>Godharm Prakash</i>	Cawnpore	Hindi	Monthly	Seth Mohan Lal	For March	12th	700 "
16	<i>Hindustan</i>	Kalákanar...	"	Daily	Gur Datt Sukla	10th to 16th.	11th to 17th.	240 "
17	<i>Jaipur Gazette</i>	Jaipur	Hindi-Urdu...	Bi-weekly	Mahabir Prasad	6th & 9th.	12th & 14th.	100 "
18	<i>Jalwa-i-Ezadi</i>	Meerut	Urdu	Weekly	Muhammad Khalif...	9th	11th	125 "
19	<i>Jam-i-Jamshed</i>	Moradabad	"	"	Jamshed Ali	3rd & 10th.	11th & 17th.	150 "

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

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